

Message Text

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SUBJECT: INSTITUTIONAL FOLLOW-UP TO WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE:

WALDHEIM-BOERMA PRESS RELEASE OF FEBRUARY 13

FOLLOWING IS PRESS RELEASE ISSUED EFFECTIVE 5 PM FEBRUARY 13
IN ROME AND NEW YORK ON CONFERENCE BETWEEN UN SECRETARY-GENERAL
WALDHEIM AND FAO DIRECTOR-GENERAL BOERMA.

/QTE FURTHER ARRANGEMENTS AGREED TO ADVANCE WORK OF/
/WORLD FOOD COUNCIL/

FURTHER ARRANGEMENTS TO ENABLE THE RECENTLY CREATED WORLD
FOOD COUNCIL TO LEAD AN INTEGRATED ATTACK BY GOVERNMENTS
AND THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM ON ALL ASPECTS OF THE WORLD
FOOD PROBLEM HAVE BEEN AGREED UPON BY UN SECRETARY GENERAL
KURT WALDHEIM AND A. H. BOERMA, DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION (FAO), IT WAS ANNOUNCED
JOINTLY HERE AND IN NEW YORK TODAY.

DURING THE COURSE OF HIS VISIT TO ROME, DR. WALDHEIM CALLED ON
DR. BOERMA ON 11 FEBRUARY TO DISCUSS FURTHER THE WORK OF
THE COUNCIL, FOLLOWING UP ON EARLIER DISCUSSION ORGANIZED BY
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DR. WALDHEIM AT UN HEADQUARTERS IN NEW YORK ON 10 JANUARY.

AT THAT TIME DR. WALDHEIM ANNOUNCED THE APPOINTMENT OF DR. JOHN A. HANNAH TO HEAD THE COUNCIL SECRETARIAT ON AN INTERIM BASIS. DR. HANNAH PARTICIPATED IN THE ROME DISCUSSIONS.

THE WORLD FOOD COUNCIL WAS FORMALLY ESTABLISHED BY THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY LAST DECEMBER ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE. IT IS TO SERVE AS A COORDINATING MECHANISM TO PROVIDE OVER-ALL, INTEGRATED AND CONTINUING ATTENTION FOR THE FOLLOW-UP OF ACTIONS AND POLICIES CONCERNING FOOD PRODUCTION, NUTRITION, FOOD SECURITY, FOOD TRADE AND FOOD AID AS RECOMMENDED BY THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE AND APPROVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL ARE TO BE MINISTERIAL OR PLENIPOTENTIARY LEVEL.

AT THE FURTHER DISCUSSIONS IN ROME, IT WAS AGREED TO DESIGNATE DR. HANNAH AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE WORLD FOOD COUNCIL, RESPONSIBLE DIRECTLY TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS. HIS DUTY STATION WILL BE ROME, WHERE OFFICES HAVE BEEN PROVIDED BY FAO.

SARTAJ AZIZ OF FAO HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AS DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE COUNCIL. HE WILL BE SPECIALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR MOBILIZING THE TECHNICAL KNOWLEDGE OF FAO IN SUPPORT OF THE WORK OF THE WORLD FOOD COUNCIL.

DR. WALDHEIM AND DR. BOERMA ALSO DISCUSSED WITH DR. FRANCISCO AQUINO, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME, POSSIBLE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE RECONSTITUTION OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE OF THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME AS A COMMITTEE ON FOOD AID POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES. THIS DEVELOPMENT WAS RECOMMENDED BY THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE, AND DETAILED PROPOSALS FOR BRINGING IT ABOUT ARE BEING PREPARED BY THE SECRETARIATS OF THE UNITED NATIONS, FAO AND THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME FOR SUBMISSION TO GOVERNMENTS AT THE EARLIEST FEASIBLE MOMENT.
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